

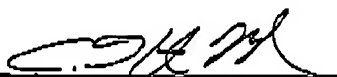
Remarks:

Applicants respectfully request entrance of the amendments as detailed above, in the continuation application filed herewith under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b). Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter is presented with these amendments. Rather, the original specification including the original Drawings, as filed on December 3, 1997, for the parent application 08/986,025, now issued as U.S. Patent, 6,242,469, has been provided for filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b). This same specification was provided for filing of co-pending parent application number 10/431,467, filed May 7, 2003. Applicants respectfully submit that this preliminary amendment is requested to correct formal matters in the specification (e.g., addition of a statement of continuation application status (with incorporation by reference), addition of a statement regarding government support, and ensuring consistency between the specification and formal drawings). As required, Applicants have submitted herewith replacement sections and paragraphs for those sections and paragraphs that have been amended as detailed above.

Additionally, Applicants would like to bring a typographical error in the declaration to the Examiner's attention. Specifically, the name of one inventor Dongfang Meng is incorrectly listed as Dang Fang Meng. Applicants respectfully submit that the correct spelling is Dongfang Meng. As set forth in MPEP 605.04(b), "when a typographical or transliteration error in the spelling of an inventor's name is discovered during the pendency of an application, a petition is not required, nor is a new oath or declaration under 37 CFR 1.63 needed". Applicants thus respectfully request that reference is made to this notification on the declaration so that any further correspondence (e.g., filing receipts) and issued patents will reflect the correct spelling of his name.

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner in advance for review of this request. If it is believed that a telephone conversation would expedite matters, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (617) 248-5215. The Examiner's attention is also directed to the recent change in power of attorney and correspondence address, as submitted herewith. Although it is believed that there is no fee associated with this amendment, if Applicants are mistaken, please charge any fees to our Deposit Account No.: 03-1721.

Respectfully submitted,



C. Hunter Baker, M.D., Ph.D.
Reg. No.: 46,533

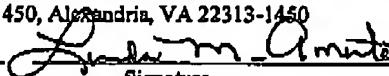
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Date: December 2, 2003

Certificate of Mailing

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as "Express Mail Post Office to Address" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

December 2, 2003

Date



Signature

Linda M. Amato

Typed or Printed Name of person signing certificate